# DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS TITLE 16 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS DIVISION 14, ARTICLE 8, Section 1484

CALIFORNIA BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING

# NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION CONCERNING: Nurse Practitioner Education § 1484

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that that the Board of Registered Nursing (Board) proposes to take the action described in the Informative Digest below, after considering all comments, objections, and recommendations regarding the proposed action.

# **PUBLIC HEARING**

The Board has not scheduled a public hearing on this proposed action. However, the Board will hold a hearing if it receives a written request for a public hearing from any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, no later than 15 calendar days prior to the close of the written comment period. A hearing may be requested by making such request in writing addressed to the individuals listed under "Contact Person" in this notice.

# WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Written comments relevant to the action proposed, including those sent by mail, facsimile, or e-mail to the addresses listed under "Contact Person" in this Notice, must be <u>received</u> by the Board at its office no later than by Monday, April 28, 2025, or must be received by the Board at the hearing, should one be scheduled.

#### **AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE:**

Pursuant to the authority vested by sections 2715, 2835.7 and 2836 of the Business and Professions Code (BPC), and to implement, interpret, or make specific BPC sections 2835, 2835.5, 2835.7, 2836, 2836.1, 2836.2, 2836.3 and 2837, the Board is considering amending section 1484 of Article 8, Division 14 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

# INFORMATIVE DIGEST / POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

Existing regulations at section 1484 of Title 16 of the CCR establish the criteria that nurse practitioner education programs must meet to receive board approval. This includes sections 16 CCR 1484(a) and 1484 (h)(7) which incorporate by reference the "Nurse Practitioner Core Competencies Content" (2017) established by the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF).

In 2022, NONPF updated the now "Nurse Practitioner Role Core Competencies." Consequently, Senate Bill (SB) 887 (Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development, Chapter 510, Statutes of 2024) amended BPC 2836 to reference the 2022 version rather than the 2017 version. This regulatory proposal will make a conforming change to 16 CCR 1484(a) and 1484 (h)(7).

Existing regulations at 16 CCR section 1484 also set forth the Board's minimum requirements for nurse practitioner curriculum, including the number of clinical hours a student must complete. These clinical hours are performed under supervision of an experienced healthcare professional, commonly referred to as a clinical preceptor.

Depending on where the student is located, clinical preceptorship can occur in state or out of state. The regulations currently require both the clinical preceptor and nurse practitioner (NP) student to have an active California registered nurse (RN) license, even if they both live and perform the clinical preceptorship in another state. The Board has found that requiring a California license when neither the student nor the preceptor are conducting the clinical preceptorship in California is overly burdensome for NP programs and unnecessary from a public protection standpoint.

This regulatory proposal will align regulations with statutory requirements, and also remove the requirement for a clinical preceptor or NP student to hold an active RN license in California when the clinical preceptorship is occurring in another state, which helps achieve the Board's mission of consumer protection through overseeing nurse practitioner programs. The proposed text was approved by the Full Board at their August 2024 Board meeting.

The Board proposes the following changes:

# Amend Title 16, CCR Section 1484 Nurse Practitioner Education

- The Board proposes to amend 16 CCR 1484(a) and 1484 (h)(7) to update "Nurse Practitioner Core Competencies Content (2017)" to "Nurse Practitioner Role Core Competencies Content (2022)."
- The Board proposes to amend 16 CCR 1484 subsection (f)(1)(A) to clarify that if a clinical preceptorship is being provided in California, the clinical preceptor must hold an active and valid license to practice in California.
- The Board proposes to amend 16 CCR 1484 subsection (f)(1)(B) to clarify that if a clinical preceptorship is being provided outside of California, the clinical preceptor must hold an active and valid license to practice in the state where the clinical preceptorship is being performed.
- The Board proposes to amend 16 CCR 1484 subsection (g) to clarify that an NP student needs to have a valid RN license in the state they are receiving their clinical preceptorship.

# **Anticipated Benefits of Proposal**

The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will have the following benefits to the health and welfare of California residents:

This proposal will make it easier for NP programs to obtain and maintain Board approval

thereby creating more educational opportunities for prospective NPs. The change will also make it easier to secure clinical preceptors, who play a critical role in ensuring the students receive a safe and quality education.

This regulatory proposal does not impact worker safety or the state's environment because it is unrelated to those issues.

Evaluation of Consistency and Compatibility with Existing State Regulations
During the process of developing this regulatory proposal, the Board conducted a
search of any similar regulations on these topics and has concluded that these
regulations are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

# **INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE**

The proposed regulations incorporate by reference NONPF's Nurse Practitioner Role Core Competencies Content (2022).

# **DISCLOSURES REGARDING THIS PROPOSED ACTION**

# FISCAL IMPACT ESTIMATES

Fiscal Impact on Public Agencies Including Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State:

The regulations do not result in a fiscal impact to the state. This proposal simplifies licensing requirements for NP programs that have clinical preceptors and NP students located out of state. The Board does not anticipate additional workload or costs resulting from the proposed regulations.

The Board notes, it does not anticipate a reduction in workload costs or revenues related to licensing out-of-state individuals subject to the proposed regulations because out-of-state NPs are not (actually) registering with Board as currently required. Instead, these individuals are opting to complete their education and training elsewhere.

The regulations do not result in costs or savings in federal funding to the state.

Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None

Cost to any Local Agency or School District for which Government Code Sections 17500 - 17630 Require Reimbursement: None

Mandate Imposed on Local Agencies or School Districts: None.

Significant Effect on Housing Costs (and, if applicable, including any estimated costs of compliance or potential benefits of a building standard): None

# **BUSINESS IMPACT ESTIMATES**

The Board has made the initial determination that the proposed regulatory action would have no significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

This initial determination is based on the following facts: The regulatory changes do not impose any additional requirements on California's licensees or businesses. Rather, the change would remove certain licensing requirements for NP programs seeking Board approval. Removing the requirement for clinical preceptors and NP students that are practicing out of state to maintain an active California RN license will make preceptor recruitment easier and NP student compliance less burdensome.

The Board does not anticipate a significant increase in NPs enrolling in California educational programs because student enrollment is capped. However, the Board indicates in the event an out-of-state NP opts to enroll in a California-based institution, the same tuition fees for all who enroll range from approximately \$21,000 (public) to \$121,000 (private) per program.

# **Cost Impact on Representative Private Person or Business:**

The Board is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

The Board does not anticipate a significant increase in NPs enrolling in California educational programs because student enrollment is capped. However, the Board indicates in the event an out-of-state NP opts to enroll in a California-based institution, tuition fees range from approximately \$21,000 (public) to \$121,000 (private) per program.

# RESULTS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT / ANALYSIS

# Impact on Jobs / Businesses

The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will not have a significant impact on the following:

- 1) the creation or elimination of jobs within the state.
- 2) the creation of new businesses or the elimination of existing businesses within the state, or,
- the expansion of existing businesses.

This proposal would not have any of the above-referenced impacts as explained in the "Business Impact Estimates" section of this notice.

# **Benefits of Regulation:**

This regulatory proposal will benefit the health and welfare of California residents by making it easier for NP programs to comply with California laws and train students for the state's healthcare pipeline.

This regulatory proposal does not affect worker safety or the state's environment as this proposal is not related to those issues.

# **Business Reporting Requirements**

The regulatory action does not require businesses to file a report with the Board of Registered Nursing.

#### **Effect on Small Business**

The Board has determined that the proposed regulations will not affect small businesses because the NP educational programs registered with the Board do not qualify as a "small business" as defined in Government Code section 11346.3.

# **CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES**

In accordance with Government Code section 11346.5, subdivision (a)(13), the Board must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered to the regulation or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed; would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposal described in this Notice; or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

Any interested person may submit comments to the Board in writing relevant to the above determinations at 1747 N. Market Blvd, Suite 150 Sacramento, CA 95834 during the written comment period, or at the hearing if one is scheduled or requested.

# **AVAILABILITY OF STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE**

The Board has compiled a record for this regulatory action, which includes the Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR), proposed regulatory text, and all the information on which this proposal is based. This material is contained in the rulemaking file and is available for public inspection upon request to the contact persons named in this notice.

#### **TEXT OF PROPOSAL**

Copies of the exact language of the proposed regulations, and any document incorporated by reference, and of the initial statement of reasons, and all of the information upon which the proposal is based, may be obtained upon request from the Board, at 1747 N. Market Blvd, Suite 150 Sacramento, CA 95834.

# **AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT**

After considering all timely and relevant comments, the Board, upon its own motion or at the request of any interested party, may thereafter adopt the proposals substantially as described below or may modify such proposals if such modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. With the exception of technical or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposal, with the modifications clearly indicated, will be available for review and written comment for 15 days prior to its adoption from the persons designated in this Notice as the Contact Persons and will be mailed to those

persons who submit written comments or oral testimony related to this proposal or who have requested notification of any changes to the proposal.

# AVAILABILITY AND LOCATION OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE

All the information upon which the proposed regulations are based is contained in the rulemaking file which is available for public inspection by contacting the person named below.

You may obtain a copy of the Final Statement of Reasons once it has been prepared by making a written request to the Contact Persons named below or by accessing the website listed below.

# **CONTACT PERSONS**

Inquiries or comments concerning the proposed rulemaking action may be addressed to:

Name: Marissa Clark

Address: Board of Registered Nursing

1747 N. Market Blvd. Suite 150

Sacramento, CA 95834

Telephone No.: 916-574-7438 Fax No.: 916-574-7700

E-Mail Address: brn.regulations@dca.ca.gov

The backup contact person is:

Name: Ras Siddiqui

Address: Board of Registered Nursing

1747 N. Market Blvd. Suite 150

Sacramento, CA 95834

Telephone No.: 916-574-7922 Fax No.: 916-574-7700

E-Mail Address: brn.regulations@dca.ca.gov

#### **AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS ON THE INTERNET**

Copies of the Notice of Proposed Action, the Initial Statement of Reasons, and the text of the regulations with modifications noted, as well as the Final Statement of Reasons when completed, and modified text ,if any, can be accessed through the Board website at <a href="https://www.rn.ca.gov/regulations/proposed.shtml">https://www.rn.ca.gov/regulations/proposed.shtml</a>.